

Dear Wallace Milam,

12/24/75

I've a lingering case of phaebitis. There are but two of us, so sometimes, despite my best efforts, things stack. This accounts for the delay in responding to your 12/18, the kind comments in which I do appreciate.

All I can now do is attempt to answer your questions briefly. They are good questions.

In order to get any access to the pictures of the tie I had to be my own lawyer, as reported in Post Mortem, in C.A.2569-70. The judge, then opposed to the FOI Act, went for a compromise, they'd take pictures for me but give me no copies. Hence I could not print them. Don't have them. Thought I'd described this, though. Remember, this was more than 5 years ago and it is still new but not in all details in my mind.

Handling Dr. Perry and treating him fairly was a tricky thing. I also could not tape him because this could have been used to clobber him. They leaned on him hard. Any recorded contrary account could be used to charge him with perjury.

By the time he got there Carrico and the nurses had already cut the clothing off so Perry had no independent knowledge of relationship with the shirt and tie and was much too bust to examine them. He went from there to work on Connally.

He did describe the horizontal incision for what is not called a tracheostomy. In that unprecedented moment when he knew the President was dead he did it a comestti way, horizontally, where on healing the scar become invisible.

Between the pressures of the illness and the accumulated work and all the other things I've done in the intervening years I've no clear recollection of the length of the incision. I'd had thought it was longer than the size of the wound. Much. They had to get tubes in and be able to work. However, I did not think it was that long, about 2 5/8 inches.

Frankly, I see nothing suspicious about anything any of the Dallas doctors did in that moment of crisis. What was done to them thereafter I regard as obscene. I am verry sorry for Perry, who I regard as a decent man. Carrico ~~xxxx~~ was quite straightforward with me. McClelland tried to be nastier than I report. I'd have like to have been able to interview others but there were a) away and b) dispensible. I regard the evidence as overwhelming and as perhaps you can understand, any one thing I do means that something else goes undone. I also didn't have the money to wait.

Please excuse the typos. It is after a sick-man's bed-time Xmas Eve.

Again sincere thanks,